

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 24731 241737Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 AF-06

OPIC-03 /073 W

----- 103080

O R 241730Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3433

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS IMMEDIJOE

USMISSION USUN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 24731

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR FR PO US

SUBJECT: GISCARD TO RECEIVE SOARES AT ELYSEE

1. ELYSEE ANNOUNCED NOON TODAY THAT PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING WILL RECEIVE MARIO SOARES AT 6:00 P.M. THIS EVENING. NO FURTHER DETAILS PUBLISHED SO FAR.

2. GELADE, QUAI DIRECTOR MEDITERRANEAN AFFAIRS, TELLS US THAT QUAI HAD BEEN UNAWARE PLANS SOARES' VISIT PRIOR ELYSEE ANNOUNCEMENT AND THEREFORE COULD NOT PROVIDE BACK-CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 PARIS 24731 241737Z

GROUND. GELADE ASSUMED GISCARD WOULD USE MEETING TO

UNDERScore FRANCE'S SUPPORT FOR NEW PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT, BUT DID NOT THINK GISCARD WAS IN POSITION TO ANNOUNCE ANY SPECTACULAR FRENCH BILATERAL AID OFFER THIS CONNECTION. ALTHOUGH GISCARD IS OFTEN IMPETUOUS, FAILS TO CONSULT MINISTRIES BEFORE MAKING PERSONAL MOVES, AND MAY MAKE MOST OF SOARES MEETING, IF ONLY TO TAKE SOME OF PORTUGUESE SPOTLIGHT AWAY FROM MITTERRAND, GOF SIMPLY HAS NOT ALLOCATED (AND ACCORDING FRENCH TREASURY CANNOT AFFORD) BILATERAL FINANCIAL AID. THERE ARE LONG-STANDING PLANS FOR BILATERAL FRENCH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. GELADE THEREFORE THOUGHT GISCARD MAY WELL OFFER TO START FRENCH TECHNICAL AID IN SOARES MEETING, AS SOON AS SPECIFIC PROJECTS ARE AGREED ON.

3. IN THIS CONNECTION GELADE ALSO INFORMED US THAT QUAI HAD JUST LEARNED THAT EC-NINE POLITICAL DIRECTORS MEETING IN NEW YORK DECIDED SEPTEMBER 23 TO APPROVE EC-NINE AID TO PORTUGAL TO GIVE QUICKEST POSSIBLE SUPPORT TO NEW GOVERNMENT. FRANCE HAD AGREED TO THIS DECISION. HE ASSUMED DIRECTORS HAD BEEN IN TOUCH USG THIS QUESTION AND EXPECTED THAT DE LABOULAYE WOULD ALSO DISCUSS IT, AS WELL AS POSSIBLE COORDINATION US AND EC NINE AID PROGRAMS FOR PORTUGAL, DURING HIS WASHINGTON VISIT THIS WEEKEND.
RUSH

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